

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-12, 14, 17-20, 22, 25-29, 31, 32, 35, and 37 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 10-12, 14, 19, 20, 22, 25-29, 31, 32, 35, and 37 have been rejected.

Claims 8, 9, 17, 18, 25, 26, 31, and 32 have been objected to.

Claims 1, 9, 11, 18, 19, 26, 27 and 32 have been amended.

Claims 8, 17, 25, 31, 35, and 37 have been cancelled.

Appreciation is expressed for the indicated allowability of claims 8, 9, 17, 18, 25, 26, 31, and 32 if rewritten in independent form.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 19, 20, 22, 25-29, 31 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is purportedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Both claims 19 and 27 recite a data processing system. As illustrated, *e.g.*, at Fig. 6 and described, *e.g.*, at paragraph 39 *et seq*, a data processing system includes a processor and a memory. These elements are hardware. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 19 and 27, and claims 20, 22, 26, 28, 29, and 32, which depend therefrom, are directed to statutory subject matter as defined by 35 U.S.C. § 101. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request Examiner's reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 10-12, 14, 19, 20, 22, 27-29, 35, and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as purportedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent 7,130,974 issued to Iwamura et al. ("Iwamura"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. In order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 11, 19, and 27 to include features included in allowable dependent claims 8, 17, 25, and 31, respectively. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections to these claims and an indication of the allowability of same.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application and the claims therein are believed to be in condition for allowance without any further examination and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 512-439-5092.

If any extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) are required in order for this submission to be considered timely, Applicant hereby petitions for such extensions. Applicant also hereby authorizes that any fees due for such extensions or any other fee associated with this submission, as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17, be charged to deposit account 502306.

Respectfully submitted,



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